

January 5, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Thursday, January 5, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

The Committee convened to hear a presentation by Dr. Carolyn Bourdeaux of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University on "Setting the Performance Bar" to assist Committee members on how to implement program based budgeting and what to expect from this budget reform initiative. Also speaking to the Committee was Mr. Ken Heaghey, the State Economist, who presented an update on the FY2006 Amended Outlook

The meeting concluded after a brief discussion and questions session.

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

January 17, 2006

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. for the 2006 Session Joint Budget Briefings. Members present from the Senate are shown on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Opening remarks were offered by Senator Hill and Representative Ben Harbin, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Governor Sonny Perdue spoke before the Joint Appropriations Committees presenting them with a brief overview of his recommendations for the S.F.Y. 2006 Amended General and S.F.Y. 2007 General Budgets.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2006 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 1026](#)) and S.F.Y. 2007 General Budget ([H.B. 1027](#)).

1. Bart Graham, Commissioner – Dept. of Revenue
2. Kenneth Heaghney, State Economist – Economic Outlook and Revenue Estimating
3. B. J. Walker, Commissioner – Dept. of Human Resources
4. Rhonda Medows, Commissioner – Dept. of Community Health
5. Kathy Cox, State School Superintendent – Dept. of Education

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

January 18, 2006

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. for the 2006 Session Joint Budget Briefings. Members present from the Senate are shown on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Representative Ben Harbin, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Opening remarks were offered by Representative Harbin and Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2006 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 1026](#)) and S.F.Y. 2007 General Budget ([H.B. 1027](#)).

6. Corlis Cummings, Interim Chancellor - Board of Regents
7. Mike Vollmer, Commissioner - Dept. of Technical and Adult Education
8. Harold Linnenkohl, Commissioner - Dept. of Transportation
9. Doug Marchand, Executive Director - Georgia Ports Authority
10. James Donald, Commissioner – Dept. of Corrections
11. Albert Murray, Commissioner – Dept. of Juvenile Justice
12. Milton E. Nix, Jr., Chairman – Board of Pardons and Paroles
13. Col. Bill Hitchins, Commissioner – Dept. of Public Safety
14. Judge Daniel Coursey, President - Council of Superior Court Judges
15. David Miller, Chairman – District Attorneys
16. Michael Mears, Exec. Director - Ga. Public Defender Standards Council
17. Wrap up – Shelley Nickel, Director – Office of Planning and Budget

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

February 13, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Monday, February 13, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H. B. 1026 by Richardson of the 19th and others - Supplemental appropriations; FY 2005-2006

A BILL to amend an Act providing appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2006, known as the “General Appropriations Act.”

Chairman Hill of the 4th provided a brief overview of what is contained in the budget document and directed the following Subcommittee Chairs to review Change Reports explaining all differences between the House and Senate version and to respond to any questions

Senator Eric Johnson of the 1st – General Government
Senator Mitch Seabaugh of the 28th – Fiscal Management
Senator Bill Hamrick of the 30th – Criminal Justice
Senator Ross Tolleson of the 20th – Natural Resources
Senator Jeff Mullis of the 53rd – Economic Development
Senator Greg Goggans of the 7th – Community Health
Senator Dan Moody of the 56th – Education
Senator Renee Unterman of the 45th – Human Development
Senator Brian Kemp of the 46th – Higher Education

Following a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Tolleson of the 20th, that **H. B. 1026** “**Do pass by substitute,**” seconded by Mullis of the 53rd The bill passed with a unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

February 23, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Thursday, February 23, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 12:20 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

S.B. 556 by Hill of the 4th and others – State Budgeting; comprehensive revision of provisions; revise/change duties/responsibilities of budget units

This legislation provides for a comprehensive revision of provisions relating to state budgeting.

Senator Hill of the 4th, author of the bill, presented bill to the Committee and instructed Mr. Kevin Fillion, Director of the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office to provide a more detailed overview of the legislation and answer any questions.

After a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Goggans of the 7th, that **S.B. 556** “**Do pass,**” seconded by Kemp of the 46th. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

March 20, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Monday, March 20, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.B. 1164 by Ehrhart of the 36th and others – Budget Act; amend

The purpose of this legislation is to provide information to the legislative branch with respect to the impact of judicial decrees and settlements on the budgetary and appropriations process.

This legislation requires that each budget unit identify and include in their budget estimate any funds which are required to comply with any judicial decree, settlement, or the anticipated expenditure which is otherwise attributable to a judicial decree or settlement.

Representative Earl Ehrhart of the 36th, author of the bill, presented bill to the Committee and answered any questions.

A motion was made by Harp of the 29th, that **H.B. 1164**, “Do pass,” seconded by Kemp of the 46th. Unanimous vote.

H.B. 1373 by Harbin of the 118th and others – Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee; repeal creation

This legislation repeals Code sections relating to the Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee (BROC) and annual continuation budget report. Such legislation requires the Office of Planning and Budget to notify the directors of the House and Senate Budget Offices on any authorization for expenditure in an appropriations Act. This bill also directs the Office of Planning and Budget to provide an annual report by January 31, 2007, and by January 31 of each subsequent year to the following: the Lieutenant Governor; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees; the directors of the Senate and House Budget Office.

Representative Harbin of the 118th, author of the bill, explained the content of the bill to the Committee.

Senator Jack Hill presented a substitute to **H.B. 1373** and directed Mr. Kevin Fillion, Director of the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office to review the changes for the Committee.

After a brief discussion and several questions, a motion was made that [H.B. 1373](#), “**Do pass by substitute**” by Thomas of the 54th, seconded by Staton of the 18th. Unanimous vote.

[H.B. 1027](#) by [Richardson of the 19th](#) [and others](#) – General appropriations; FY 2006-2007

A bill to make and provide appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007.

Chairman Hill of the 4th provided a brief overview of the budget document and then directed each of the following Subcommittee Chairs to review Change Reports explaining all difference between the House and Senate versions and to also respond to any questions.

Senator Bill Hamrick of the 30th – Criminal Justice
Senator Mitch Seabaugh of the 28th – Fiscal Management
Senator Ross Tolleson of the 20th – Natural Resources
Senator Jeff Mullis of the 53rd – Economic Development
Senator Greg Goggans of the 7th – Community Health
Senator Johnny Grant of the 25th – Corrections portion of Criminal Justice
Senator Dan Moody of the 56th – Education
Senator Chip Pearson of the 51st – General Government
Senator Renee Unterman of the 45th – Human Development
Senator Brian Kemp of the 46th – Higher Education

Following questions and requests for clarification, a motion was made by Tolleson of the 20th, that [H.B. 1027](#) “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Unterman of the 45th. Unanimous vote. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

March 22, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, March 22, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 3:00 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.B. 953 by Chambers of the 81st and others – Law enforcement officer; change definition

The current Bill relates to the Georgia State Indemnification Fund, that a “law enforcement officer” must be an agent or officer of the state or a political subdivision or municipality thereof. This legislation expands this definition to include an agent or officer of an authority or instrumentality of the state or a political subdivision thereof.

Representative Chambers of the 81st introduced the bill to the Committee and explained the change in definition. The Senate Appropriations Committee then heard testimony on behalf of this legislation from members of the MARTA Police Unit as well as several other law enforcement officials.

The Senate Appropriations Committee offered a substitute to the bill and A motion was made by Kemp of the 46th that **H.B. 953** “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Mullis of the 53rd. Unanimous vote.

H.B. 1473 by Brown of the 69th and others – Social Security Act; certain waivers; require prior legislative approval

The subject of this bill relates to Medicaid waivers and estate recovery.

Section 1 - of this bill amends Code Section 49-4-142.1 of the O.C.G.A., to delineate that the Department of Community Health (DCH), nor any other representative from the State of Georgia, may submit a waiver request to the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for relating to Medicaid modernization that would affect 20,000 or more individuals in Georgia’s Medicaid population without first obtaining legislative approval. Such approval may be by an Act of the General Assembly or by the adoption of a joint resolution.

Section 2 – of this bill amends Code Section 49-4-147.1, relating to claims against the estates of Medicaid recipients by providing that a substantial and unreasonable hardship shall include estates of Medicaid recipients that are valued at \$100,000 or less. Currently, the commissioner of DCH shall waive a claim if he or she determines the claim’s enforcement

would result in substantial and unreasonable hardship to the dependents of the Medicaid recipient.

Additionally, this section provides that no later than July 1, 2006, the DCH must submit an amendment to the state's estate recovery plan to the CMS reflecting the change. If the amendment is not approved, this section will stand repealed.

This bill was presented to the Committee by the author, Representative Brown of the 69th.

Senator Goggans of the 7th, Chair of the Community Health Subcommittee presented the substitute to [H.B. 1473](#) and justified differences made and approved by the Senate Subcommittee.

After a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd that [H.B. 1473](#), **“Do pass by substitute”**, seconded by Meyer Von Bremen of the 12th. The bill passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

March 23, 2006

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Thursday, March 23, 2006 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 5:45 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.R. 1094 by Scheid of the 22nd and others – Sales and use and motor fuel taxes; aviation fuel; revenue provisions – CA

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that funds derived from sales and use and motor fuel taxes with respect to aviation fuel may be appropriated for and grant made for all activities incident to providing and maintaining an adequate system of public-use airports in this state; to authorize the General Assembly to allocate and specify and direct the use of such funds by general law; to provide for submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

Senator Bill Heath of the 31st presented the bill to the Committee and explained the differences of the Committee substitute.

After a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Tolleson of the 20th that **H.R. 1094** “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Pearson of the 51st.

The bill passed with 15 votes for and 1 opposed (Seay of the 34th).

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Johnson of the 1st, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary